THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The total number of employees category-wise employed by FCI in Punjab and the number of ex-servicemen in each category is indicated below:-

Category of employees	Total No. of employees	No. of ex-service men
I	43	4
II	431	—
III	5490	120
IV	3292	944

Survey of Marine Resources

747. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey of marine resources that exist between 100 to 200 mile limit in our ocean waters;

(b) what is the approximate quantity available in this zone; and

(c) what are the reasons for not exploiting this zone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Fishery Survey of India has been surveying the fishery resources of our Exclusive Economic Zone including areas between 100-200 miles limit and beyond.

(b) The fishery resources in the 100-200 miles Zone has been estimated at about 5 lakh tonnes.

(c) Lack of suitable resources, specific fishing vessels such as tuna long liners, tuna purse seiners etc. and requisite facilities and technology for processing and export of tuna etc. are the major constraints in the exploitation of this zone.

Fishing by Joint venture and Charter Trawlers

748. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the consensus arrived at the meeting called to discuss the problems created by the new fishery policy of Government on June 8th, 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have recognised the need to restrict further shrimp fishing by big boats;

(c) the areas in which joint venture and charter trawlers are supposed to fish; and

(d) whether any action has been taken to implement the suggestions made at this meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The following were the important recommendations made by the Hon'ble Members in the meeting:—

(i) It was suggested that operation of chartered vessels should be allowed only beyond 50-60 miles, even 100 miles from the shore.

(ii) It was felt that in connection with charter, depositing of 20 per cent value of the catch in advance would be difficult for the foreign collaborator.

(iii) Deep sea fishing vessels should be operated keeping the interest of the poor fishermen in view.

(iv) Cold storages may be put up in suitable places in order to store fish and release them gradually depending on demand.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The chartered vessels are permitted to fish beyond 24 nautical miles from the shore on the western coast and 12 nautical miles from the shore on the eastern coast, as a general rule. Moreover, chartered vessels are not allowed to fish in certain restricted areas on the eastern & western coasts. Regarding operation of vessels under joint venture also, it is stipulated that these vessels should operate beyond the range of operation of mechanised and non-mechanised boats.

(d) The suggestions are under examination.

Potential of Marine Products

749. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that total potential of marine products exceed four million tonnes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such resources exist even upto the 200 mile limit;

(c) whether such a computation of our marine resources is based on taking into account the ocean area upto the 200 mile limit; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not issuing orders to foreign charter and joint ventures to fish in the waters beyond 100 miles from the coast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The estimated fishery potential in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone, up to 200 nautical miles from the base line is more than 4 million tonnes.

(b) Yes Sir. But the qualitative and quantitative nature of the resources vary with depth and distance from the shore.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The policy of the Government is rational exploitation of the available fish resources at different depths and distance from the shore to the limits of our Exclusive Economic Zone and even beyond by modernisation of the traditional craft, introduction of improved mechanised boats and a judicious mix of resources specific deep sea fishing vessels through various programmes.

Problems of Fishermen due to New Fishery Policy

750. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recognised the problems created by the new fishery policy with respect to chartering and inviting of foreign fishing joint ventures;

(b) what were the results of scrutinising this policy as a result of widespread criticism from all sectors in the country;

(c) whether Government propose to prohibit foreign fishing charter boats from operating within 50 miles from the coast; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement this decision to keep foreign boats under charter at least fifty miles away from the coast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Since the new fishery policy of the Government has not been implemented so far, the question of any problems being created by this policy does not arise.

(b) There is no widespread criticism of this policy. In fact it has been welcomed by the fishing industry and others concerned.

(c) and (d) A recommendation to this effect was made in a meeting taken on the 8th June, 1987 in the